



County of Bucks

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

55 East Court Street, Doylestown, PA 18901

Phone: 215-348-6466 Fax: 215-340-8206

EMAIL: OpenRecordsOfficer@co.bucks.pa.us

County Solicitor
GLENN D. HAINS, ESQ.

Open Records Officer
REGINA M. ARMITAGE

May 19, 2011

Diana Lopez
Senior Editor--Sunshine Review

Re: **Open Records Request (#622) – Various Information (Bucks Co.)**

Dear Ms. Lopez -

Your request for information pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right-To-Know Law was received by the Bucks County Open Records Office on April 12, 2011 and notification of a 30-day extension was provided on April 19, 2011. Specifically, you requested the following items and the County's response is as follows:

- 1) Records* of **all county salaries more than \$150k** from January 1, 2008 to January 1, 2011.

Response: Your request is granted and salaries for positions earning more than \$150K have been provided.

- 2) Records of salaries from January 1, 2008 to January 1, 2011 for:

- Board of Commissioners
- Chief County Operating Officer
- County manager or chief administrator
- County/district attorney
- Sheriff
- Controller

Response: Your request is granted and salaries for the above referenced positions have been provided.

- 3) Benefits information in dollars for items 1 and 2, from January 1, 2008 to January 1, 2011.

Response: Your request is granted and benefits costs have been provided for the positions referenced in items 1 and 2. Pursuant to Section 705 of the Pennsylvania Right-To-Know law "an agency shall not be required to create a record which does not currently exist or to compile, maintain, format or organize a record in a manner in which the agency does not currently

compile, maintain, format or organize the record.” As County benefits figures are retained in the form of monthly premiums, the table provided reflects monthly medical and prescription drug premium rates as billed by Independence Blue Cross to the County of Bucks.

Please note that each rate shown is based on the individual’s plan election and dependent enrollment and is a snapshot of monthly premiums billed during the middle of each plan year. This data does not contemplate enrollment changes that took place before or after this data was obtained, nor does it contemplate any contribution towards the cost of coverage that may have been made by these individuals via payroll deductions. In addition, individuals who joined and/or left the County’s plan during the plan year, would have incurred premium costs only for the months during which they were enrolled.

- 4) Overtime paid out to retiring personnel from January 1, 2008 to January 1, 2011.
- 5) County cell phone use from January 1, 2008 to January 1, 2011.
- 6) County personal car use from January 1, 2008 to January 1, 2011.

Response: As referenced in the County’s 5-day response dated April 19, 2011, Section 703 of the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law states that “A written request should identify or describe the records sought with sufficient specificity to enable the agency to ascertain which records are being requested.” In its response, the County suggested that you provide more detail in order to narrow the scope of records you wish to obtain, however, we have not received a reply. Therefore, the County is unable to identify which records are being sought for items 4 through 6, and your request has been denied.

You have the right to appeal this partial denial of information in writing to Terry Mutchler, Executive Director, Office of Open Records, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, 4th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17120. If you choose to appeal, please note that you must do so within 15 business days of the mailing date of the County’s response. 62 Pa. C.S. §1101.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 215-348-6466. Otherwise, please be advised that this correspondence will serve to close this record with our office as permitted by law. Thank you for your interest in Bucks County government.

Respectfully,


Regina Armitage
Open Records Officer